



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SAITO, et al. Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/566483 Group Art Unit: 1615
Filed: January 30, 2006 Docket: 10873.1854USWO
Title: ABSORBENT RESIN PARTICLE, AND ABSORBER AND
ABSORBENT ARTICLE EMPLOYING THE SAME

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 13, 2006.

By: *Peggy Kerkhove*
Name: Peggy Kerkhove

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. The references were recently cited in a European Search Report mailed September 14, 2006. A copy is enclosed. Copies of any foreign patent documents or "Other Documents" are enclosed.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §(a)(3)):

CA 2 426 514 is an English equivalent of DE 100 43 710.

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- ☒ (1) within three (3) months of the Filing Date, before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114; or
- ☐ (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, and
- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, OR
- ☐ the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein, or
- ☐ (3) after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but on or before the payment of the Issue Fee, AND

- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, AND
- ☐ the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein.

STATEMENT

As required under §1.97(e), Applicants hereby state either that:

- ☐ 1. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
- ☐ 2. No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☐ If this box is checked, Applicant provides the following:

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☐ The Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. applications. A copy of each U.S. patent application publication (if published) or application (if not published) is enclosed.

Application No.

Filing Date

Group

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

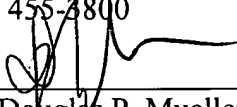
FEE AUTHORIZATION

Should any fee associated with the submission of this paper not be attached hereto as a check, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the missing fee to our Deposit Account, No. 50-3478. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &
LARSON, P.C.
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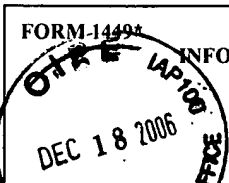
Dated: December 13, 2006

By: 
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/pjk

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

FORM-1449* 	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	
	IN AN APPLICATION	
	(Use several sheets if necessary)	
Docket Number:	Application Number:	
10873.1854USWO	10/566483	
Applicant: SAITO, et al.		
Filing Date: January 30, 2006	Group Art Unit: 1615	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,497,930	February, 1985	Yamasaki, et al.			
	4,732,968	March, 1988	Obayashi, et al.			
	5,075,373	December, 1991	Takemori, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	0 386 897	September, 1990	EPO				
	01/45758	June, 2001	WIPO				
	0 450 922	October, 1991	EPO				
	0 463 388	January, 1992	EPO				
	100 43 710	March, 2002	Germany				
	2 426 514	March, 2003	Canada				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	